

# HPC e-Bulletin

Friday 9 May 2025



Kia ora koutou and welcome to Week TWO of Term Two. A shorter nine week term with two long weekends - time will fly and we have lots to pack in.

## Summer Code photos Tuesday 13th of May

Summer Code co-curricular photos are happening on Tuesday 13th May from 9am onwards - please refer to the schedule [HERE](#). The Year 13 Cohort class photo will be retaken on this day. Also, the students that missed their individual photos in March will be given a chance to get their photo taken also. Their River guide has this list.

## Buses

A reminder that ministry buses are not public transport vehicles. Travelling on another bus from your normal one is not permitted. There will be no exemptions, it's a ministry and bus company rule.

## Mufti Day - Friday 16th of May

We have one mufti day each term, and this is our date for Term two. The Year 13s are fundraising for their graduation dinner. Students need to bring a gold coin if they are wearing mufti.

## International News!

An exciting week for HPC, signing a Memorandum of Understanding with four Korean schools in Incheon City, the start of a relationship that will involve exchanges and friendship in the future. This visit was well led by our 28 students who have been studying Korean and will head to Korea and Japan in April 2026 for school visits and homestays. We will welcome 28 students from Incheon in October this year. Check out a news article [here](#).



## Host Families Wanted – Korean Exchange Visit

Hauraki Plains College is excited to welcome a group of Korean students and staff from 13 July to 1 August 2025, and we are currently looking for host families to be part of this rewarding cultural exchange. This is a paid opportunity, and all hosts will be required to complete police vetting. If you're interested or would like to know more, please contact: Mike Dwight – International Director - 027 325 8881, email - [international@haurakiplains.school.nz](mailto:international@haurakiplains.school.nz)

## Common Assessment Activities (CAAs)

Many of our students from Years 10-12 will be sitting the CAAs from 19-21 May. These are the Reading, Writing and Numeracy exams that provide the Literacy and Numeracy co-requisite credits for the NCEA qualification. Students will be provided with their exam timetables early next week.

## Assessment Timing

There is no strict time limit for the CAAs. However, each assessment must be completed in a *single* session under NZQA exam conditions. While the assessments are designed to be completed within 60 minutes by most learners, all students are allowed extra time in order to finish it to the best of their abilities.

## Text-to-Speech Support with Polly - Support for all Learners

Polly, a text-to-speech tool, will be available for all students participating in the 2025 **Literacy** and **Numeracy** digital assessments. Polly can convert text into audio/speech, allowing students to listen to the assessment content being read aloud. It also has the capability to read students' responses back to them.

To make the most of this tool, it is important that students turn *Polly* on at the start of the assessment and wear their own **headphones**. This will ensure they can fully utilise the support available to them.

We encourage students to practice using *Polly* with the past digital Numeracy and Writing assessments - log in details below.

## Past Digital CAA Exams

Instructions on how to access the previous 2023 and 2024 Reading, Writing, and Numeracy CAA digital exams:

1. Go to: [Find past digital external assessments » NZQA](#)
2. Select a subject: **Literacy (Reading), Literacy (Writing), Numeracy** either **Term 2** and/or **Term 3**
3. Select a level: **1**
4. Enter the below **NSN, Verification code and Access code** to enter the past exam (students can't save their answers):

**NSN: View2024**

**Verification code: Tw3nty/24**

**Access code: 0000**

If you have any questions or queries about the CAAs please contact the following staff:

Exam schedule - Jaco Dreyer ([jacod@haurakiplains.school.nz](mailto:jacod@haurakiplains.school.nz))

Special Assessment Conditions - Jacqui-May Allison-Dodds ([jacqui-maya@haurakiplains.school.nz](mailto:jacqui-maya@haurakiplains.school.nz))

## Staffing Changes

We have had three staff members resign this year for various reasons. When we recruit new staff, there is often a gap between when they are appointed and when they can start. This can cause disruption, and we sometimes need a relief teacher to fill the gap for short periods. We have a wonderful pool of relief teachers who are experienced, fully registered and familiar with our school and students. Given there is a relief teacher shortage, we are fortunate to have them.

We have also moved Mr Chand into the Year 9 Dean role to cover Miss Dickie while she is on maternity leave. Unfortunately, some of our classes will have had two or even three different teachers this year. We do our best to minimise disruption, but sadly, it cannot always be avoided.

Most of the changes are currently happening in our Humanities Department. We are delighted to have a new Curriculum Leader for Humanities starting at the beginning of Term 3—you will enjoy meeting him. If you have any questions about staffing changes, please contact the Curriculum Leader for the class or subject: <https://haurakiplains.school.nz/our-people/staff-contact-emails/>

## Year 9 and 10 camps

Heads up! Our Year 9s are heading to Ngaruawahia on 3-4th



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December. The cost will be approximately each \$200 per person. In Year 10 students choose which camp they want to take part in (marae, sports, water based, tramping etc), the cost of these range from \$50 to \$200. You are very welcome to start putting money towards camp now.

## Uniform Club - a way to start saving (NZ Uniforms only)

The Uniform Club works by allowing you to add payments to a Uniform Club card, which can then be redeemed for goods at any NZ Uniforms retail outlet. The Uniform Club helps you save for your child's School Uniform throughout their school journey.

<https://haurakiplainscollege.nzuniforms.com/content/UniformClub.htm>

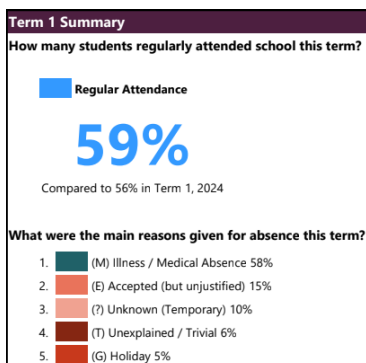
## Transition to Winter Uniform

Our transition period from summer to winter uniform is coming to an end. By Monday, 12 May all students are expected to be in the correct winter uniform. The only acceptable winter school shoes, as indicated in our uniform requirements in the HPC prospectus, are black leather lace up school shoes with a heel of no more than 5 cm (as shown in the image). There are often a number of students wearing incorrect school shoes – they may be advertised in the shoe store as school shoes, but they are not acceptable under our policy. Please make sure your children are in the correct footwear.

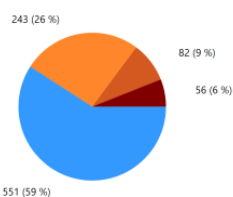


## Attendance

This is an extract from our termly attendance report. Our goal for 2025 is 60% of students attending regularly (90% of the time). Please keep supporting your child to be at school.



## How many students are in each student attendance category?



Student Categories	Student with	Equivalent to
Regular attendance	over 90% attendance	missing fewer than 5 days across a term
Irregular absence	more than 80% and up to 90% attendance	absent for between 5 and 9 days across a term
Moderate absence	more than 70% and up to 80% attendance	absent for between 10 and 14.5 days across a term
Chronic absence	70% attendance or less	absent for 15 days or more across a school term

## Student Attendance at Hauraki Plains College

We expect all students to be at school every day, unless there's a justified reason like illness or bereavement. This also includes attending school-related activities outside the classroom, like EOTC or trips. If a student needs to leave during the day, they must sign out through the office, with prior permission from home.

Parents and caregivers play a huge role in supporting regular attendance. Letting us know by 8.30am if your child will be away and trying to schedule appointments outside school time really helps us support students effectively and identify any issues early on.

If a student has repeated absences, we follow a supportive, step-by-step process that may include:

- Contact from their River Guide (letters, phone calls, or meetings)
- Involvement from Deans or senior leaders if concerns continue
- Tailored support, like access to wellbeing services, flexible timetables, or help transitioning back into learning
- Sometimes, support from outside agencies such as CAPS Hauraki

Our goal is simple: we want every student to feel supported, connected, and successful at school. If you have any concerns about attendance or just want to talk something through, please reach out – we're here to help.

## Volunteers for Restricted Ready Program

We are on the lookout for volunteers to help our students gain driving skills to pass their restricted licence. Please email Amanda Sayer [amandas@haurakiplains.school.nz](mailto:amandas@haurakiplains.school.nz)

## Sport Waikato Survey

**What motivates you or stops you being active? Tell us and be in to WIN 1 of 5 \$100 grocery gift cards!**

Sport Waikato is running a survey aimed at finding out about how active we are – or aren't! They need to hear from everyone aged 18+ or those who have left school, whether you spend your days running marathons or chilling on the couch.

The information you provide will help build a picture of our region and help Sport Waikato and their partners (like us) to ensure play, active recreation and sport is more accessible, exciting and inclusive!

Take the 5 minute short survey and be in to WIN <https://shorturl.at/ba5eq>



- The survey and prize draw is open to residents of the Waikato region – from Thames-Coromandel to Taupo and everywhere in between
- The survey is completely anonymous – any contact details will only be used for the purposes of the prize draw
- Prizes will be drawn every month, from February-December throughout 2025. Winners can choose vouchers from their local grocery store/supermarket.





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## New MOE Portal

Information overview

[The Parent Portal can be accessed here](#)

[The latest episode of Melissa Chan-Green's School Shorts podcast explains more about the portal](#)

## Hauraki Rowing Club presents... BEATS BY BINGO!

Huge fundraiser event for our HPC rowers. Saturday 7th June - \$25 per ticket at the Ngatea War Memorial Hall. More info [here](#).

## Community:

The Paeroa Lions Club in conjunction with the Te Aroha, Waihi Ngatea clubs are holding the Russell player memorial fun ride on the hauraki rail trail on the 25th of May with 4 starting points Waihi, Te Aroha, Kopu, and Karangahake for the little ones all finishing in Paeroa. All money raised will go to the Cancer Society Lions Lodge in Hamilton. It's a great family day out with spot prizes and a barbecue. More info [here](#).

Ngā kura (Tau 0-13)

[Schools \(Year 0-13\) →](#)

Topics in this section:

- ☐ Available assistance
- ☐ Digital technology
- ☐ Health, safety and wellbeing
- ☐ Learning support
- ☐ Starting at school
- ☐ Understand your child's learning
- ☐ What happens at school
- ☐ Your rights and responsibilities

Popular in this section

School term dates and holidays  
Home education  
Which schools and kura have Healthy School Lunches

Related links

School transport assistance  
Netsafe Hector's world [↗](#)  
School zones and enrolment schemes

## HPC Upcoming Dates

Day/Wk	Week 3 - Week commencing 12th May		Week 4 - Week commencing 19th May	
Monday	12	Service Academy - Bushcraft WSS Inter-Collegiate Golf Teams Day	19	CAA Exams 130TE River Crossing (Line 2)
Tuesday	13	Service Academy - Bushcraft Summer Code Photos	20	CAA Exams 130TE River Crossing (Line 3) WSS Inter-Collegiate Golf Champs Day
Wednesday	14	Service Academy - Bushcraft TVSS Squash	21	HPC Cross Country Champs
Thursday	15	Service Academy - Bushcraft Auckland Writers Festival trip Yr 13 overnight camp (at school!)	22	Otago Uni visit (TBC)
Friday	16	Service Academy - Bushcraft Mufti Day (Yr 13 fundraiser) BOP Schools MotoX	23	Waikato University Open Day TVSS Golf - Round 1 TVSS Bowls

## Careers Corner

As Taylor Swift (and Benjamin Franklin before her) said "if you fail to plan, you plan to fail". This is a very busy term with all sorts of visits and opportunities happening. Students need to check their emails regularly to keep up to date, as well as ensuring that they are using some sort of calendar or tracking system for themselves to be organised.

Where trips have been oversubscribed, we have booked more coaches to try to accommodate everyone. We do expect that students will show up and attend events where they have been allocated a place.

**The Careers Expo** is the national show at Hamilton, which provides our students with opportunities to connect face to face with employers, industry representatives and training providers in order to support our young people looking to make key decisions about their future career choices. [Hamilton 2025](#)

**The Wintec visit** is for students in Years 10 and 11 who are interested in studying a trade pathway via the Wintec Trades Academy. Pathways that are available are:

- Hair and Beauty
- Construction and Infrastructure
- Manufacturing and Technology.

These courses offer students the ability to study trade pathways off-site one day a week and gain credits at Level 2. More information via the link: [Waikato Trades Academy Programmes](#)

Please contact Mrs Lawlor [pippal@haurakiplains.school.nz](mailto:pippal@haurakiplains.school.nz) for any queries for career events.

## Careers interviews

Appointments for Term 2 can be requested via email. Please contact [pippal@haurakiplains.school.nz](mailto:pippal@haurakiplains.school.nz)



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We look forward to welcoming Year 10 River Groups with their River Guides for Tahatū orientation visits in Term 2. You can visit the website <https://tahatu.govt.nz/> to create your own account and take the inspiration quiz as a starting point.

## Work Shadowing

Students who signed up for dental work shadowing are asked to check their emails and confirm their availability by emailing Mrs Lawlor. We can reschedule appointments if you need to.

## Gateway- new applications welcome for Term 3 start

Please come and speak to Mrs Scott if you want to join any of the Gateway programmes in Term 3. Your commitment as a student is that you will attend health & safety training (2 days on site in school) and participate in a work placement (5-10 days offsite/out of school). You will gain 20 credits by completing your Gateway programme. However, you also need to be able to manage your subject workload and assessments, as you will be spending time out of your regular classes.

## Learner's Driver Licence

The next course will run at Hauraki Plains College from Tuesday 17th June - Friday 19th June (testing day). E-mail [pippal@haurakiplains.school.nz](mailto:pippal@haurakiplains.school.nz) if you are interested in being part of this course.

Mr Harris has posted a very informative presentation in the Year 11 Google Classroom : <https://classroom.google.com/c/NTg2NzA5Njl1Mzg3/p/NzU5NDA2OTQ3NjE3/details>

**You must be 16 years' old by 19th June to take your test on this date. There will be another course in Term 3 also.**

## Pathways Graduation Breakfast

This will be a special event held on Thursday June 26th for all students who have completed Gateway and Vocational Pathways certification. Parents of students and employers who have hosted students are also warmly invited. If you will have been involved in Gateway, Work Experience or Wintec in Terms 1 or 2 this year, please put the date in your diary. Invitations will be sent out soon.

### CAREERS DATES TERM 2

Day	Date	Who	Time	Where
Wednesday	21st May	University of Waikato Scholarship meeting	9:00am Block 1	Hall
Thursday	22nd May	University of Otago	1:50pm Block 4	Hall
Friday	23rd May	Visit to University of Waikato Open Day - Year 12 & 13 students	9:00am - 2:30 pm	Hamilton - full Now waitlisting
Monday	26th May	New Zealand Defence Force Liaison Visit Year 11, 12 & 13 students	11:00am-12:00pm	Gym
Thursday	29th May	New Zealand Institute of Sport - Year 12 & 13 students	9:00am-2:30pm	Auckland - full Now waitlisting
Thursday	5th June	AUT online presentation	11:00am-12:00pm	Hall
Monday	9th June	Careers Expo Visit - Year 11, 12 & 13 students	9:00am - 2:30pm	Hamilton - a few places available
Thursday	12th June	Girls in Infrastructure - Year 11, 12 & 13 students - <b>Must be 16 years old to attend</b> . Free! Transport provided from HPC	9:00am - 2:45pm	Hamilton
Tuesday	24th June	Experience psychology day	9:00am - 3:00pm	FULL

### CAREERS DATES TERM 3

Monday	28th July	Wintec Pre-Trade visit - Year 10 & 11 students	11:00am - 1:30pm	Kopu Campus
Thurs-Fri	31st July - 1st August	Gateway Health & Safety course	8:45am - 3:00pm	Centennial Centre
Wed-Thurs	6th-7th August	Flight attending course	9:00am - 3:00pm both days	HPC- please email Mrs Lawlor